Senate—Wednesday, November 7, 2001

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable BILL NELSON, a Senator from the State of Florida.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Dear God, You, Yourself, are the answer to our prayers. So often we come to You with our shopping list of requests. Prayer becomes a "gimmie" game rather than a grace gift. Help us to realize that whatever You give or withhold from us in prayer is to draw us into deeper intimacy with You. When we put the primary emphasis on a relationship with You, experiencing Your presence and receiving Your power, life becomes a privilege. It loses its strain and stress. Added to that, You provide the spiritual gifts we need-wisdom and discernment, emotional strength and stability, and physical stamina and endurance. Grant the Senators a special measure of Your inspiration today as they listen to You. Speak to them before they speak to the Senate and to the Nation. May debate not divide but develop deeper understanding. Now, when the world looks to America for leadership, may patriotism unite this Senate. Grant the Senators and to all of us a renewed dependence on You that makes possible greatness in leadership. You are our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable BILL NELSON led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President protempore (Mr. Byrd).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, November 7, 2001.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable BILL NELSON, a Senator from the State of Florida, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD, President pro tempore.

Mr. NELSON thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The acting majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, the Senate will resume consideration of the District of Columbia Appropriations Act immediately. Senator Allen will offer an amendment regarding needle exchange programs. He has agreed to have 60 minutes for debate prior to the vote in relation to the amendment. That vote will occur a little after 11 o'clock. Following the vote in relation to the Allen amendment, Senator HUTCHISON of Texas will offer an amendment regarding attorney's fees, with 60 minutes for debate on that amendment. Following 30 minutes of debate on the Hutchison amendment, it will be laid aside for a period of morning business until 2:30 p.m. Senators will be permitted to speak during morning business time for up to 10 minutes each. This period of morning business is for a number of reasons but mainly to accommodate the Senatorsonly briefing with Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld.

At 2:30 p.m., the Senate will resume consideration of the Hutchison amendment, with 30 minutes of debate prior to the vote in relation to the amendment, at approximately 3 p.m.

The majority leader announced last night in closing that he wanted to complete the DC appropriations bill today. Everyone should understand we are going to work very hard until we finish this bill tonight. That is the intention of the majority leader. Other than these two amendments, I am not sure how many more there will be. Hopefully, it can be wrapped up quickly. There are a number of other important issues that are waiting to be completed before we adjourn for the year.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2002—Continued

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will now resume consideration of H.R. 2944, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2944) making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against the revenues of said district for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002, and for other purposes.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senator from Virginia is recognized to offer an amendment, on which there shall be 60 minutes of debate.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask that we not go to the amendment for just a few minutes. Senator Landrieu is in the building and will be here momentarily. I think she should be present. I ask unanimous consent the Senator from New York be recognized for 5 minutes as in morning business.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from New York.

PUBLIC SAFETY INFRASTRUCTURE

Mrs. CLINTON. Mr. President. I rise today to bring to our attention two distinct problems facing our States and particularly our communities in New York as a result of the attacks on September 11. I have just come from a meeting with a number of mayors from cities all over the country, including mayors who joined us by conference phone, Democrats, Republicans, large cities, medium- and small-sized cities. They all have said with a single voice that the impact on our public safety infrastructure of the attacks is such that they are bleeding dollars. They are paying overtime constantly to our police officers, our firefighters, our first responders. They do not have the funds to provide the protection and the quick response our citizens deserve and expect.

I can speak specifically about New York. We have an economic situation where we face a \$10 billion shortfall in State revenues over the next 18 months. In addition, our New York State comptroller, Carl McCall, has identified \$940 million in potential State and local government costs due to the current congruence of events.

This means that city governments, county governments, far away from Ground Zero, are faced with hundreds of calls about potential biological or chemical materials, particularly anthrax, to which they are responding as we expect them to. They are faced with threats coming in—both credible and, frankly, not, but we have to follow each one up—potential threats to our infrastructure, our powerplants, our bridges, our ports, our airports.